

brought some sausage from his store in Dodge County, so we very much appreciate that, Senator Janssen. I believe it is under the north balcony over here. With that, Senator Witek.

SENATOR WITEK: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I will attempt to answer some of the questions that have come up. The reason that I am asking to reconsider the Bernard-Stevens amendment are because of...my first was to reconsider it, and I had a decision to make on whether to amend it, bring essentially the same but slightly different amendment in on General File, or wait until the bill possibly passed again on General File, since it is a priority bill, and then amend it on Select File, or go ahead and just do a reconsideration motion this morning, since any amendment I put forth would not be substantially different. As Senator Withem ruled yesterday, it has to be substantially different. It wouldn't have been substantially different. It would have been essentially the same because it does the same things that I want to do. So the purpose of doing this now is to put the bill into a shape where once, if it gets to Select File, if we do vote for the reconsideration motion this morning and vote for the Bernard-Stevens amendment to strip the language out of the bill, and if you pull it, that's fine, but I know, you know, that this is something that you believe in, Senator Beutler, and you'll come back next year with some kind of a funding mechanism, whether it'd be to, you know, charge the campaigns a tax or whatever it is, and this kind of serves two purposes. I mean it kills that idea of yours, and it brings forward...so I mean just to be plain, talking plain, that's exactly why I am doing this is to kill both of them, kill your idea of the using the funding, and to take out all of the language, because if you came in with a bill and I came in with a bill, and my bill stripped all the language out, and your bill passed forward, then we'd have it all again. So it kind of takes it both down at the same time, and that's, essentially, why I am doing this now, going ahead and reconsidering it, putting it into a shape where if we get to the bill, we will be on the Bernard-Stevens amendment. Hopefully, we will be able to vote for that and that will be what will advance this year to Select File. If you choose at that time to pull it, that's fine, and we can put in a bill next year before the next elections to try to strip this. I've been trying to strip it, and as Senator Schimek said, it is due to the United States Supreme Court has indicated that any limitation on campaign expenditures must be entered into voluntarily, voluntarily, and that the utilization of public financing of a campaigns is